

thereby providing a cropped image; and

(d) providing the cropped image to a display.

15. (amended) A system for correcting the aspect ratio of an image captured by an image capture unit comprising:

means for determining if the image requires cropping;

means coupled to the determining means for decompressing the image if required;

means coupled to the decompressing means for cropping the image if the image requires cropping, thereby providing a cropped image; and

means coupled to the cropping means for providing the cropped image to display.

Please cancel claims ~~23-27~~.

REMARKS

The present application is a Continuation of USSN 08/891,424, filed July 9, 1997. This Preliminary Amendment has been submitted to more particularly describe the present invention. Claims 1-27 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-6 and 23-27 have been canceled. Claims 7 and 15 have been amended. Consequently, claims 7-22 remain pending in the present application.

In an Office Action for the prior application dated October 2, 1998, the Examiner rejected pending claims 7-13 and 15-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,619,738 ("Petruchik"). In so doing, the Examiner stated that:

Petruchik [sic] et al discloses in Fig. 4, a camera which comprises the same steps of determining if aspect ratio of the image matches a predetermined aspect ratio (marker 50 determines if an aspect ratio of images matches a predetermined aspect ration, col. 4, lines 42+), decompressing the images if required (a user can control